

REMARKS

Claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 12, 13, 15, 17, 21, 26, 27, and 30-32 were pending. By this Amendment, Applicants have amended claims 12 and 15 and cancelled claims 1, 2, 5, 8, 13, 21, 27, and 31.

The examiner had rejected claim 17 under § 112, second paragraph. As noted in the previous amendment, with respect to claims 15 and 17, there appears to be a difference in view as to what the term “concentric” means. The examiner appears to indicate that it can only mean that the rings can be in the same plane. Applicants disagree, and pointed out before how the term “concentric” can mean “having a common center” but can also mean “having a common axis” as in the term “coaxial.”

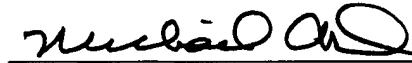
To resolve this, Applicants propose amending to make this clear by changing “concentric” to “coaxial” in claim 15.

All claims should now be in condition for allowance, and accordingly a notice of allowance is respectfully requested.

Please charge any fee or credit any excess that may be due in connection with this matter to our deposit account No. 08-0219, and please consider this a request for any extension fee that may be due in connection with this matter.

Respectfully submitted,

Date: 3-31-06



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